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January 2006

No. 453

\$4.00

MUFON

Mutual UFO Network

UFO JOURNAL



One of the best series of UFO photos ever taken (ranking up there with McMinnville) was the series shot along a California highway by the late Rex Heflin. Veteran ufologist Ann Druffel looks at Heflin and the latest research on his photos, beginning on page 3.

January 2006 Number 453

MUFON UFO Journal

(USPS 002-970)
(ISSN 0270-6822)

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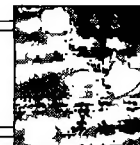
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Director's Message

By John F. Schuessler



We have lost another good friend

Robert V. Pratt (Bob) died on Monday, Nov. 21, 2005, following a brief illness.

Bob was a no-nonsense UFO investigator and an outstanding writer. He was a friend to MUFON, and supplied a lot of reliable information to the organization.

From October 1983 through September 1984 Bob served as Editor of the *MUFON UFO Journal*. Bob was my friend and confidant. I appreciated his advice and cherished his friendship. I will miss him.



John Schuessler

Loren Gross ends history project

MUFON just received notification from Loren E. Gross of Fremont, CA, that he is ending his UFO history research.

He said: "This monograph, *UFOs:*

A History July-December 1963, will be my last. After thousands of dollars and thousands of hours, I've done all I can. The history project results are crude, but hopefully someone can build on them. I am convinced something really strange is taking place in the Earth's atmosphere. It's also clear to me authorities have little credibility."

Loren's monographs are of high quality and are thoughtfully done. He obviously has a love for history and knows how to do historical research. He has made a gigantic contribution to the UFO field.

MUFON Pandora Project support

Leslie Varnicle, MUFON State Director for Colorado, and the Colorado MUFON organization have been strong supporters for the MUFON Pandora Project—a project aimed at converting all MUFON paper files to electronic files so they will be available for future UFO researchers.

Not only have they contributed volunteer hours to the work that is being done, they came up with a novel way

(Continued on page 22)

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The *MUFON UFO Journal* is published monthly by the Mutual UFO Network, Inc., Morrison, CO. Second Class postage paid at Versailles, MO

Individual Membership: \$45/year U.S., \$55 outside the U.S.

Family members: \$10 per person additional

Student (18 years and under): \$35 U.S. and \$45 outside the U.S.

Donor \$100/year Professional: \$250/year Patron: \$500/year

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First class Journal delivery (in envelopes) U.S. and Canada only: \$12/year additional

Air Mail Journal delivery to all other countries outside the United States: \$35/year additional

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to advise change of address to *MUFON UFO Journal*, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369

MUFON's mission is the scientific study of UFOs for the benefit of humanity through investigation, research, & education.

Heflin's 1965 photos among the best

By Ann Druffel

An unexpected phone call from Larry Tarrant of Sun City, CA, on Oct. 10 sadly informed me that Rex Heflin had died on Oct. 7, 2005.

The news came as a shock, since Rex had left a message a few days earlier on my answering machine that he wanted to "catch up" with what was happening on the four UFO Polaroid photos that he had taken on Aug. 3, 1965, which had been studied and re-studied by numerous researchers during ensuing years.

More recently, a team of scientists—Dr. Robert M. Wood, Dr. Eric Kelson, and myself—had re-analyzed Heflin's photos with state-of-the-art computer technology, and had our findings published in a refereed scientific journal, the *Journal of Scientific Exploration*.¹

Our paper clarified certain questions which various researchers in the UFO field had raised over the years concerning the validity of Heflin's four pictures.

Our study also revived the field's interest in these photos, which showed the nearby passage of an unidentified craft, and answered all doubts which had been raised over the years about them.

Rex Heflin had the unexpected privilege of photographing the close passage of an extraordinary UFO on 3,000 ASA Polaroid film shortly after 12 noon on the afternoon of Aug. 3, 1965.

At the time, he was a highway maintenance engineer for the Orange County Road Department, based in Santa Ana, CA, and had been in the midst of duties which involved detecting possible hazards to highway traffic.

Part of his job involved keeping all traffic signs clearly visible to motorists, and he had noted that branches of a tree were obscuring a railroad crossing sign in the vicinity. He attempted to report the obscured sign to his supervisor on his van radio, but for some unexplained reason his radio failed.

At about the same instant an unidentified flying craft flew across his field

January 2006



Photo two.

of view. Heflin saw it first through the window of his work van as it crossed Myford Road. The unidentified craft had a shiny dome and rim which reflected the sunlight, and a broad black band circumvented its mid-section.

Intrigued, he grabbed his work camera, a Polaroid 101 loaded with 3000 ASA film, from the right passenger seat and snapped a picture (Photo One, *Journal* cover) through the windshield.

Then, as the craft spun off northwards from his position, it tipped, revealing a dark underside with a greenish-white light beam rotating clockwise around the bottom, from the center out to the rim.

He took a second picture (Photo Two, above) through the van's passenger window. As the craft moved further away, the sunlit features were less distinct, but the black band still showed clearly. Heflin took a third picture (Photo Three, page 4).

Then the craft seemed to "wobble," then "stabilized" and gained speed. It

headed quickly toward the northeast, traveling directly over the Santa Ana Freeway that cut across the landscape about 1 1/2 miles away.

After it disappeared from his sight, he saw a ring of bluish-black smoke in

About the author

Ann Druffel has been involved with ufology since 1957, and was one of NICAP's first investigators, later working with CUFOS and MUFON.

She has written numerous articles on UFOs, and has been a speaker at several symposiums.

Druffel is the co-author of *Tujunga Canyon Contacts*, and is the author of *How to Defend Yourself Against Alien Abductions* (1998), as well as the extensively-researched *Firestorm: Dr. James E. McDonald's Fight for UFO Science* (2003).

She holds the B.A. in sociology from Immaculate Heart College.

the sky; Heflin wondered if the strange craft had "blown off" its black band.

He drove about 1/2 mile toward the smoke ring, which was gradually rising in altitude.

Getting out of his van, he photographed the "ring" as it slowly traveled northeast at an angle of about 50 degrees elevation (Photo Four, Page 6).

The only reference points in the fourth photo, besides clouds from the overcast sky, were a telephone wire and a small limb of a tree in an orange grove.

Heflin judged the ring to be three to four times larger than the diameter of the craft which had apparently emitted it. It was bent out-of-shape by light winds, but Heflin was nevertheless surprised at the smoke ring's "solid" appearance; it did not dissipate like ordinary smoke.

He assumed that the object was some kind of experimental aircraft from El Toro Marine Base, which was about one mile south of his position.

Still thinking he had photographed an experimental plane, he then noted that his radio worked well again. The demands of his work meant that he could not wait and watch the smoke ring, although intrigued with its cohesiveness. It was like nothing he had ever seen before.

He continued on with his work, leaving the area of the smoke ring. Returning later to his Santa Ana office, he showed the four Polaroid pictures to colleagues at the Highway Department, and it was then that the object first began to be regarded as a "possible UFO."

The fourth photo of the enigmatic "smoke ring" met with skepticism and negative remarks by some colleagues, and Heflin stopped showing it, figuring that "three photos were enough for one day."

Rex knew nothing about the UFO phenomenon, and had little interest in it at the time.

Within a few weeks, however, so many friends and relatives had become interested that the *Santa Anna Register*, a prominent newspaper in Orange County, checked at El Toro Marine Base to determine if anyone on the Base had seen the craft. The *Register* had been given the photos by one of Heflin's



Photo Three.

relatives.

El Toro officials denied that any reports of a possible "UFO" had been received, and also denied that it was an experimental aircraft from their base.

Copies of Heflin's first three photos were made from Heflin's originals by the *Register's* chief photographer, Clay T. Miller, and these were published for the first time in the *Register* on Sept. 20 1965, together with an objective account of the event, six weeks after the event had occurred.

Heflin was never asked for permission to print the photos, and even though they were subsequently published widely in journals and magazines throughout the world, he never copyrighted them or asked any remuneration for their use.

Investigators from the National Investigations Committee On Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) were the first to research the event in an objective manner.

At that time, the Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee, LANS, was headed by noted biophysicist Dr. Leslie K. Kaeburn, and later by Idabel Epperson, a talented and objective investigator whose public relations skills were vital

to the subcommittee².

Other LANS members, including this author, contributed peripheral research on other aspects of the case.

Two NICAP investigators from Orange County, Ed Evers and John Gray, who were aviation engineers employed at North American, and Dr. Robert M. Wood thoroughly investigated every aspect of the sighting and photos, including on-site study.

During the next three years, five expert teams of photographic analysts around the country studied them with then state-of-the-art technology, failing to find any evidence of a hoax.

Other aspects of the sightings, including the van's radio interference, were also thoroughly investigated. The radio interference was found to be unexplainable, and gradually became regarded as possible electromagnetic interference caused by passage of the unidentified craft.

According to Heflin's superior, Herm Kimmel, the sudden cutoff was akin to "button-release," except that there was no "blip," which occurred when the button was released normally.

The painstaking investigation of all these aspects of the photos and the

event in general, together with thorough investigation of Heflin's veracity, resulted in the "Heflin Photos" being regarded widely in the field as among the very finest—and clearest—photos ever taken of a UFO.

Early on in UFO research, objective researchers had realized that only those reports where documented proof of the existence of UFOs could be obtained would convince the scientific community at large that the UFO phenomenon constituted a scientific problem that called for serious, interdisciplinary study.

In other words, only by presenting empirical evidence (the next thing to hard, scientific proof) could adequate funding be brought to solving the problem.

Lay investigative groups like the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) and Civilian Saucer Intelligence (CSI) were some of the pioneer groups of skilled investigators possessing the necessary professional research skills to thoroughly investigate UFO reports.

From the early 1950s, however, the government was denying that unidentified flying objects existed at all, and scientists in general simply dismissed the subject.

One class of sightings that held out hope of proof that UFOs actually existed to civilian investigators—and the few scientists who then studied them—were UFO photo cases which held up under the most careful study by photogrammetric techniques available at the time.

Very few UFO photos survived scientific analysis, and the same situation, of course, still exists.

As the years of investigation continued on the Heflin photos, almost constant harassment from curiosity-seekers plagued him, but through it all he maintained his remarkably calm and good-natured equilibrium.

He changed his telephone number several times in an effort to ward off crank calls, but strangely his unlisted telephone number was soon "discovered" by other curiosity seekers. The Santa Ana Road Department was also swamped with calls.

During all this, Heflin cooperated with visits from several governmental sources, including Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force officials.

The Air Force conducted an official inquiry on behalf of Project Bluebook, which was, at the time, the only publicly-known official Air Force group responsible for studying UFOs.

The investigating officer, Capt. Charles F. Reichmuth, copied and returned the photos, as had the Navy and Marine Corps intelligence officers.

Reichmuth checked with Heflin's supervisors and learned that Heflin was a valuable employee—mature, alert and trustworthy. Reichmuth noted in his report that he "could find no evidence to disagree with this estimate," and sent his report to Project Blue Book at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, OH.³

Through it all, Heflin displayed no interest in publicity, but whenever he was questioned by objective researchers was always forthright, good-humored, and extremely objective.

In spite of Reichmuth's generally positive report, a later Project Blue Book "Photo Analysis Report" described a "comparison shot" made by other Air Force officials of a nine-inch vapor tray tossed into the air at 15-20 feet distance.

The results of the vapor-tray experiment evidently satisfied Project Blue Book; it officially listed the Heflin photos as a hoax in spite of Capt. Reichmuth's report which stated, "From all appearances, he is not attempting to perpetrate a hoax."

On Sept. 20, 1965, a man representing himself as a NORAD colonel phoned Heflin and arranged to meet him two days later, warning him not to discuss the event further with the press. On the appointed evening two men in civilian clothes, claiming to be from NORAD, came to his door.

One of them flashed a salmon-and-green card which Heflin thought looked similar to those carried by El Toro Marines. He did not remember the name on the man's ID, but noted that it did not have a photo. The second man did not participate in the conversation.

Heflin obligingly lent the self-styled NORAD men the three pictures of the

craft, fully expecting that they would be returned as the USMC, the USAF, and the US Navy had done.

No mention was made of the fourth photo of the smoke-ring, for it had received little publicity, and Heflin retained it.

The "NORAD" men failed to return the photos. Heflin tried to track them down with the assistance of NICAP-LANS, but NORAD disclaimed any knowledge of them.

Heflin even contacted his congressman, Representative Utt, who inquired on behalf of Heflin and was assured that NORAD offices had been searched "from top to bottom" with no results. The identity of the two "NORAD" men remains unknown to this day.

As a consequence, Heflin and UFO researchers were left with only copies of some of the most promising UFO photos that had ever come to light. Heflin was criticized by some in the UFO field for lending out his originals in what they considered a "careless" fashion.

Heflin, however, was used to working with government and military officials in the course of his work. In addition, he was by nature a trusting individual, and at first had been rather indifferent about the photos.

Being a natural skeptic about UFOs, he had, for weeks after the event, continued to think that the object was probably an experimental aircraft.

Not until scientists and engineers connected with NICAP-LANS and other organizations took interest in the photos, and particularly after they were stolen by the so-called NORAD men, did he begin to think he had photographed something highly unusual—i. e., a "UFO."

In the Spring of 1966, a highly-respected scientist, James E. McDonald, PhD, publicly entered the field of UFO research and began working closely with objective lay researchers, engineers, and scientists.

As senior physicist at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics at the University of Arizona at Tucson, he was a highly-talented scientist who persistently pursued unanswered questions in science. To him, the government's apparent neglect of UFO reports was unsound

and seemed to be a "grand foul-up."

Since 1958, he had quietly conducted an eight-year study of the phenomenon, and had come to the conclusion that UFOs were a serious scientific question that the establishment at large was neglecting badly.⁴

McDonald worked closely with NICAP-LANS and other objective investigators on the Heflin photos, and came to the eventual conclusion that Heflin was completely reliable and that his photos were among the very few UFO pictures which could be considered "genuine."

He included them in his list of "100 best cases" which he sent to the Condon Committee staff in 1967, suggesting that they be studied by that newly-funded Air Force study.

Extremely dubious of the Air Force "hoax explanation," McDonald wrote in his own "Heflin" file: "Wonder if anyone had taken Rex's camera, set it for 15 feet, shot a nine-inch vapor pan, then checked for blurring of the free-way power lines visible in Heflin's photos?"⁵

Photogrammetric analysis of the photos had already shown that the telephone lines (and the UFO) were in sharp focus, indicating that Heflin had held his camera steady as he snapped his four photos.

McDonald also re-investigated the interference on Heflin's van radio, since this was possible physical evidence.

He learned that other Highway Department radio systems in the area had been affected at the same time, including Heflin's superior, Herm Kimmel, who was in a mobile traffic and Planning vehicle on the Santa Ana freeway north of Heflin's position.

The radio trouble was not normal static or interference—the system was "just dead."⁶

Consulting a University of Arizona colleague, Walt Evans, McDonald satisfied himself that it was "quite conceivable that a strong [electromagnetic] field at the same frequency as Heflin was calling out on could "blank" the system, because the type of amplifier usually used in first stage would simply block or saturate at very high receiver signal strength and transmit nothing at all."⁷

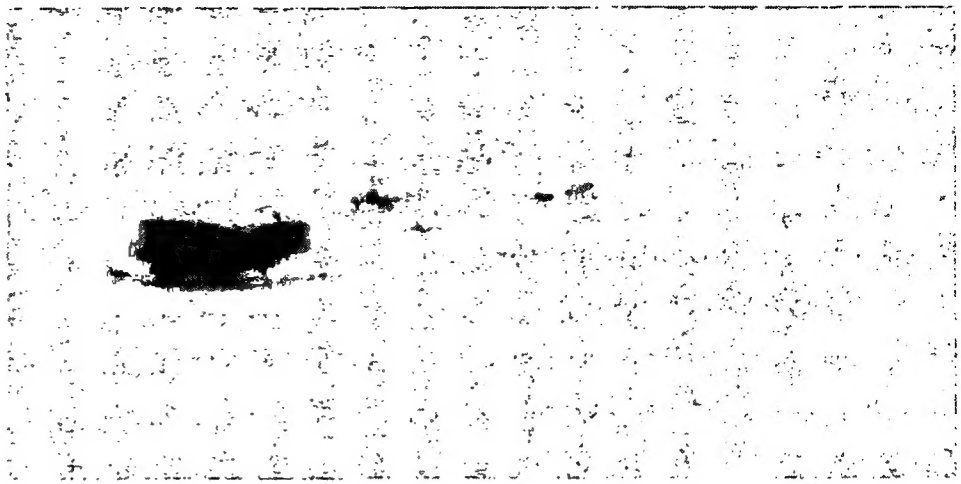


Photo Four.

McDonald also investigated the Heflin photo event on-site.

He had begun to wonder why the first three pictures of the craft in flight, taken from inside Heflin's van, apparently showed "flat" overcast skies, while the fourth photo, which Heflin had taken outside his vehicle about a minute later, showed what McDonald's meteorologist's eye identified as "substantial clouds" in the vicinity of the ring.

He checked with every available weather service within fifty miles of the Myford Road site and became convinced, from scientific data concerning humidity and temperature in the locality for that date and time, that the clouds in Heflin's #4 Photo of the smoke-ring could not possibly have formed in the sky at that location on the date in question.

He slowly began to suspect that Heflin had taken the fourth picture at another time and place. He also wondered why the smoke-ring photo had not been printed in the *Santa Anna Register's* original article.

Idabel Epperson of LANS, one of the principal correspondents with McDonald, explained that Heflin had not emphasized Photo #4 partially because of his co-workers' negative reaction, but that he'd never intended to hide its existence.

Early on in the investigation, he had lent the fourth photo to NICAP investigator Ed Evers to be copied along with the other three, but it had not been copied by any other source except LANS.

Epperson had also checked weather data concerned with Heflin's sighting.

G. W. Kalstrom of the U. S. Weather Bureau at LAX International Airport had assured her that thick clouds could, and did, form in portions of the Los Angeles Basin when the rest of the sky was merely overcast.

The main reason for the difference in the appearance of the sky, however, lay in the fact that the first three photos had been taken inside Heflin's work van, and the automatic light meter on his Polaroid camera had tended to minimize any features in the sky, whereas Photo #4, showing the smoke-ring, had been taken outdoors.

Epperson also noted that *her* copies of the photos, particularly Photo #1, showed quite heavy clouds, while McDonald's copies, which were a different "generation," showed a "flat" sky.

The differences between Epperson's and McDonald's images lay in the fact that the two copies had been made by different film developers using different degrees of exposure.

Since the so-called NORAD men had stolen the original Polaroids of Photos #1, #2 and #3, investigators had had to rely on copies of these pictures, not the originals.

Epperson had also noticed the difference in the sky in Photos #1, #2, and #3 from the definitely clouded sky in Photo #4.

She had learned from the National Weather Records Center and other weather stations close to El Toro that an overcast sky could look essentially "flat" in pictures taken at a low angle from inside an enclosed vehicle, but would show the sky as it actually ap-

peared with thick overcast in a photo taken outdoors, where the camera's automatic light meter performed in normal fashion,

McDonald remained doubtful, possibly because he was an expert in atmospheric physics, not photography!

By now, LANS members had become well-acquainted with McDonald's fierce persistence when bird-dogging a case, and assured Heflin that it was typical of McDonald to affirm and re-affirm every possible aspect of sightings which captured his interest.

Besides this, McDonald had written personally to Heflin: "As you know, your 1965 photos remain the outstanding photographic evidence yet submitted concerning UFOs."⁸

By the time McDonald investigated the case on-site, LANS had done a two-year check on Heflin's character and work record, and had been assured by his superiors and co-workers that he was a straightforward individual, had 15 years of responsible duty in the County Road Department, and was not the type to pull a hoax that could jeopardize his job.

The fact that Heflin had an off-beat sense of humor and joked at times in a deadpan fashion, especially when irritated, in no way detracted from his truthful and responsible nature.

Early in November, 1967, McDonald traveled to Southern California with William Hartmann, PhD, a University of Arizona faculty member who had been selected by the Condon Committee to be in charge of UFO photo cases.

They interviewed officials and radar technicians at El Toro Marine Base, learning that the investigating officer there had checked Heflin's character, work record, and reputation, and had interviewed his relatives and friends.

There had also been photographic analysis on the copies of Photos #1, #2 and #3. McDonald was also told that the unidentified craft had not been viewed on radar by El Toro or by any adjacent military facility.

At Electronics Communications Maintenance, they met with a 1st Lt. Leahy and what McDonald described later in his "Heflin" file as "a fellow in civvies.....The latter seemed to have the dope, but refused comment 'till got January 2006

clearance."

The "fellow in civvies," later identified as a Paul Schaen, apparently got clearance and talked freely when they went on to the Radar Air Traffic Control Center, a joint FAA-USMC facility.⁹

This facility had no record of Heflin's sighting on its logs. During this morning meeting, McDonald was told by Marine Corps personnel at the base that the surface winds at the time of Heflin's sighting were from the NNW at 4 knots.

This was an exactly opposite direction that LANS' investigators and McDonald himself had been informed by several meteorological sources in the Santa Ana area.

Next month: The surprising conclusion.

References & footnotes

¹"Reanalysis of the 1965 Heflin UFO Photos," by Ann Druffel, Robert M. Wood, and Eric Kelson, *JOURNAL OF SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION*, Volume 4, No. 4, 2000, a publication of the Society for Scientific Exploration (ISSN 0892-3310), pp. 583-622.

²Dr. Leslie K. Kaeburn died in 1968,

and Idabel Epperson succeeded him as LANS Subcommittee Head.

³Young, Mort, *UFOs TOP SECRET*, New York, An Essandess Special Edition, 1967, contains a copy of a report filed by Capt. Charles F. Reichmuth, USAF, who learned of the existence of the Heflin photos on Sept. 14, borrowed them on the 18th, and returned them on the 22nd.

⁴For an authorized biography of Dr. James E. McDonald's unmatched contributions to UFO research, see *Firestorm! Dr. James E. McDonald's Fight for UFO Science*, by Ann Druffel, Wildflower Press, July 2003.

⁵McDonald, James E., "Heflin File." In "James E. McDonald Personal Collections," University of Arizona Library at Tucson, AZ. Archived by Druffel under a grant from FUFOR and now available to the public. Contact Curator Roger Myers at the UA Library.

⁶Ibid.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Ibid.

⁹Ibid. Also see *Firestorm! Dr. James E. McDonald's Fight for UFO Science*, Op. Cit. Ref (3) above, pp. 301.

Hap-Map Project targets genes that confer survival benefits

The ability to spoon down ice cream or chug a milkshake might not seem like an evolutionary advantage in our weight-conscious society.

But scientists say that 5,000 to 10,000 years ago, around the time dairy farming began in Northern Europe, natural selection encouraged the spread of a genetic mutation that enabled adults to digest the sugars in milk.

Those with the new gene—lactase—had a nutritional advantage over those who lacked it, so they proliferated, along with the mutation.

This theory was first proposed in 1970, but scientists at Harvard Medical School demonstrated the genetic proof just last year.

Now geneticists are about to get a powerful new tool that should make it

much easier to find such direct evidence of evolution in modern humans.

A three-year, \$100-million venture called the Haplotype Mapping Project, or HapMap, which completes a massive public database of genetic variation in our species, has just been released..

The first HapMap-derived papers are now out, and scientists are rushing to study them. "It's going to be very exciting," says Christopher Wills, a biologist at the University of California at San Diego. "It will allow us to understand ourselves at a far greater depth than we ever have before."

In recent years researchers have begun to uncover genetic evidence of mutations that conferred survival benefits in certain populations.

Pratt's introduction to UFOs Teenager frightened by Wisconsin UFO

Editor's Note: Bob Pratt, a former editor of the *Journal*, has generously offered all the cases on his website as articles for this publication. It seems appropriate to print the case which turned the once skeptical journalist into one of our most respected ufologists.

By Bob Pratt

A teenage girl named Jane Baker indirectly led to my getting interested in UFOs. In 1975, Jane was a high school student who lived with her parents and three brothers in a small two-story house on a farm in northern Wisconsin.

Every night in those days, Jane would carry her two cats, Scamp and Babe, out to the garage, where they'd spend the night. As she was taking them out on the evening of March 13, the sky lit up and she heard a strange whining noise.

Off to her left, about 400 feet away, she saw a round, brightly lit object in the middle of a narrow road that ran past the house. It had red and greenish-blue lights that were blinking.

It scared her. She threw the cats into the garage, slammed the door and ran back into the house. "Dad! Dad!" she screamed. "Come quick! There's something out there!"

It was about nine at night, and her mom and dad were sitting on the sofa examining packages of seeds they were going to plant in the spring. Her father quickly stepped out onto the cold porch in his stocking feet and stopped abruptly as he saw what she was screaming about.

"I didn't want to believe what I was seeing," Phil Baker said later. "There was this circular object about 12 feet across with red and bluish-green lights around the outside and in the center was an opening like a door with a real brilliant light coming from inside.

"I felt I could've looked inside if I'd been closer, but I couldn't see any de-

(Continued next page)

Bob Pratt dead at 79

By Dwight Connelly

Journal editor

Bob Pratt, journalist, author, and UFO researcher, died Nov. 21 at the age of 79 after a brief illness.

He served as editor of the *MUFON UFO Journal* from October, 1983, until September, 1984, but I first became acquainted with him when I edited *Skylook* (former name of the *Journal*) back in the 1970's when Bob was reporting for the *National Enquirer*.

Despite writing for a tabloid newspaper, Bob could be depended on to write accurate articles, never embellishing the facts. This professionalism, no doubt, was the result of having spent several years as a writer for such prestigious newspapers as the *Louisville Courier-Journal*.

Although he had never personally seen a UFO, and although he entered the field a skeptic, this former mainstream reporter soon became convinced of the UFO reality as he investigated encounters.

And in his six years with the *National Enquirer* he gained the respect of virtually all mainstream ufologists.

In fact, he eventually served as co-author of *Night Siege: The Hudson Valley UFO Sightings*, with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, perhaps the most prestigious ufologist of all time.

Bob later wrote *UFO Danger in Brazil*, translated and published in Brazil as *Perigo Alienígena no Brasil*.

Although starting relatively late in life as a ufologist, Pratt interviewed more than 2,000 witnesses, many of them in other countries.

Always modest, Pratt said, "Some people think I'm an expert on UFOs, but I'm not. I don't think anyone is. I am, simply, a reporter who became fascinated by this phenomenon and have been fortunate enough to be able to spend some time and money trying to find out what it's all about.

"After thirty years, I'm still at it... still trying to find out what it's all about.

"At best, I think, I can call myself a UFO researcher," he said, "a term that's



vague enough to cover anything and anyone, from the most qualified to the least. I fit somewhere in between."

It is very probable that no other foreign UFO researcher knew about Brazilian ufology, having visited the country 13 times, often working with MUFON State Director in Brazil Cynthia Newby Luce.

Brazilian ufologists were as impressed with Bob as his American associates.

On May 3, 2003, at a conference in the city of Curitiba in southern Brazil, he was given a diploma naming him an *Ufólogo Brasileiro Honorário* or Honorary Brazilian Ufologist, in recognition of his research in Brazil. It was signed by 78 Brazilian ufologists.

A. J. Gevaerd, editor of *Brazilian UFO Magazine*, says Pratt "was that kind of field investigator that really went deep where the facts are to be researched. He helped a lot the Brazilian UFO researchers to best evaluate the dramatic incidents of alien attacks in the northeast of the country and in the Amazon. His death is a great loss for worldwide ufology."

In this country, of course, the Internet has been filled with tributes to Pratt by the many ufologists who had the privilege of working with him.

tails. It made a high whiny, sing-songy noise. I never heard a sound like that before."

He hurried back inside to get some shoes on. His wife had come to the doorway by then, and she stood watching the object.

By now, two of Jane's brothers were outside, also staring at the object. Her third brother was upstairs, so wrapped up in a basketball game on the radio that he stayed there throughout the incident, aware only of a commotion outside.

It has changed!

When Jane next looked at whatever it was, she exclaimed: "It's changed now! It's different!"

When she'd first seen it, there had been no opening on the side of the object. Now there was a door of some kind.

Everyone stood watching the eerie spectacle for several minutes, uncertain what to do. Suddenly, a pounding noise came from inside the object.

"It was like BANG! BANG-BANG! BANG! and so on, like somebody was hammering on a piece of metal or repairing something," Phil Baker said. "Some bangs were louder than others, like a heavy hit and then a light tap. There was no pattern to it.

"I didn't know what to expect. I told my wife I ought to go see what it was. Maybe a small plane had crashed or a snowmobiler was in trouble and somebody needed help. But she said to stay away from it."

He went back inside, followed by the others, and phoned George Ree, Ashland County's under-sheriff, who lived several miles away.

"No sooner was I on the phone when there was a loud explosion from the object and it simply vanished," Baker said. He was anything but calm at the time.

"Baker was very upset," Ree told me later. "He's a pretty reliable, dependable person, and I have no reason to disbelieve him, but he was quite excited. I had to tell him, 'Take it easy, cool down and just tell me what it is.'"

Family quite excited

When Ree finally learned what had happened, he drove to the Baker home, located on a small hill beside the dirt

road, which ended half a mile beyond the house. No one else lived on the road at that time and the nearest neighbor was half a mile away in another direction.

"When I got there, those people were quite excited," Ree said. "They were a frightened family. The mother wouldn't even come outside."

Ree examined the spot in the road where the Bakers had seen the object, but could find no sign that anything had been there. He questioned the family a little more, then reported in by radio to the sheriff's dispatcher in Ashland, and went home.

A few minutes later, Ree was back on duty again. The dispatcher phoned and said more UFOs had been sighted. Between ten and midnight, Ree and six deputies from Ashland County and neighboring Iron County saw four unidentified objects flying around in the sky.

Peter Drolson, then a 24-year-old Ashland County deputy, got the closest look at one. He had just parked his patrol car at the end of a road overlooking Lake Superior and had stepped out.

"Everybody was seeing UFOs that night except me," Drolson told me. "When I finally did see one, it was far away and I lost sight of it. I didn't think much about it, and I was looking out over the lake when suddenly the ground got real bright around me and I could hear something. I was talking on the radio to the sheriff at the time.

"Everything got so bright I could've read a newspaper. I could see my shadow on the ground. I was leaning against my car with the microphone in my hand and whatever it was came from the west behind me going east across the road. All I could see was this bright glow maybe a couple of blocks behind me at treetop level or a little higher.

"Woosh" silences radio

"I turned to my left to get a better look, and my microphone cord became taut. So I turned to the right real quick to look over my right shoulder. By then it had already gone over the trees on the other side of the road and was gone.

"It sounded like a big gust of wind coming through the woods. I was talking on the radio the whole time, but they

heard only part of my transmission. They heard me talking, then a 'whoosh' and then me talking again."

All this was heard not only in the Sheriff's Office, but on the radios of several police cars as well.

"I heard the 'whoosh' and the radio went blank," Under-sheriff Ree said. He had been standing beside his patrol car near the Ashland-Iron county line, talking to several deputies as they watched the UFOs flit through the skies.

"We saw one object come from the south going in a northerly direction," Ree said. "This was the second one, and it was a little lower than the first. We watched these two for maybe a half hour.

"Then a third one came from the north going south, and that was the lowest one of all. We could see different colored lights on it. That one stayed in the air for approximately ten or fifteen minutes, just moving, sort of doing a jig, going up and down, making a big 'U' and going up and down again.

"Two deputies were watching from a fire tower on Birch Hill and another, Drolson, was northwest of them on Lake Superior when one of these objects we were watching took off at a very high rate of speed.

"I radioed to Drolson and told him, 'It's going your way,' and all of a sudden he said, 'I see it coming...' and his radio went blank.

This was the first UFO case I had ever investigated. At the time the sightings occurred, I had just switched from the rewrite desk at the *National Enquirer* to reporting.

What did the Baker family see that night? Nobody knows. I couldn't explain it.

For all I know, someone was inside that thing, whacking away with a hammer on their light-year meter or something. And once their "repairs" were made, they took off in such a hurry that they created a sonic boom, which could explain the explosion that the family heard.

But it was the case that introduced me to the world of UFOs, and by the end of my week in the Superior-Duluth area I was hooked on the phenomenon. Life hasn't been the same since.

Dogs often howl or bark at UFOs

By Joan Woodward

Howling is fundamentally a form of communication between dogs, particularly between animals at some distance from one another.

Some dogs, as an instinctive response, will howl when they hear certain sounds, such as musical instruments or sirens.

When howling, the dogs are normally relaxed, and their howls are a social response, not a response to discomfort.

They are not howling because a siren hurts their ears. Howling would be expected to occur in response to a sound or to elicit a response from another animal.

Fully 73 percent of the sightings with howling dogs reported sound from the UFO. Only two sounds are reported as high-pitched, and both were associated with fearful dogs that howled. Most of the sightings involving howling dogs are also in other behavior sections.

Of the 11 sightings, five of them report dogs' alert-alarm barking and howling. In three of these, witnesses report sound associated with the UFO (hum, loud hum, air conditioner-washing machine).

The fact that some dogs barked and some howled is reasonable, due to the variability of the individual responses.

Three sightings report dogs that are fearful and howling. This is not an expected combination of behaviors as a howling dog is normally relaxed with its head raised.

In AR07 dogs were running and howling (odd behavior combination) in the yard, and when let into the house, they shook, whimpered, and hid. The



Joan Woodward

About the Author

Ms. Woodward worked with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) in the 1960's, assisting with the original *UFO Evidence* (1964). She returned to ufology in 1996 as a field investigator for MUFON and the Fund for UFO Research after retiring from the U.S. Geological Survey as a research technician.

She assisted Richard Hall in developing an index of James E. McDonald's correspondence in the Donald E. Keyhoe Archives, and worked on data compilation for Hall's *Alien Invasion or Human Fantasy?*

Ms. Woodward later took over the animal reactions section of Francis Ridge's special evidence section of the NICAP web site. She also has extensive experience with both domestic and wild animals.

UFO made a very high pitched sound like a transformer hum, and flew by low four times.

AR77 is a similar sighting, but with less detail. A dog barked and howled and was described as fearful as an oval disc generated wind, moving trees about. The only sound heard by humans was a wind sound from the UFO.

In AR 12, the Flynn sighting in the Everglades previously discussed, the crated dog tried to escape its crate while howling (really odd behavior). The sound reported from the UFO 600 feet away was loud and high pitched.

One might expect a dog under these conditions of trying to escape to whine or yelp or even scream, but not howl. In these three sightings, it is possible the howling response was an involuntary reaction by a dog faced with an overwhelming stimulus.

Three sightings concern only howling. The least interesting is AR39, a bothersome sighting in that many of the details were not clear when focusing on the animal reaction aspect.

A UFO was initially encountered while witnesses were in a car with their dog, which was seemingly unaware of the UFO. As they arrived home and

started to their house, the UFO flew by.

The dog that lived next door was reported to have run off howling just before they and the UFO arrived in the area. The relationship between the dog's behavior and the UFO is questionable.

AR91 presents a pure and reasonable howling reaction, and is one of multiple sightings involving red lights that occurred in the local area that night.

In this case, as a cigar-shaped object with red lights and a "dynamo" humming sound moved slowly through his area, the witness reported that the dogs were howling as they did when they heard a siren or passing train.

The description of what would normally cause these dogs to howl is of great value and adds enormous clarity to the event.

AR49, like the Everglades sighting, involves changing behavior with distance. This sighting occurred in 1977 in Uruguay, where a glowing disc moved about a barnyard, eventually hovering about 20 feet high.

A watchdog ran aggressively toward the object, barking. When 15 feet from it, he stopped, sat, and began howling as he looked up at the UFO. This is a more typical description of normal howling behavior.

The dog is not running or moving, but is still, and its head is up as it howls. The disc was reported to make a noise, but, unfortunately, the sound is not described.

EM effects, electrical shock, and

Editor's Note

This article, Part Four in a series, is abridged from Ms. Woodward's full presentation, including charts, case descriptions, and other material, which is included in the MUFON booklet *Animal Reactions to UFOs*. The full report is also included in the 2005 *MUFON Symposium Proceedings*. (See UFO Marketplace, page 23.)

heat were reported by the witness. If the dog felt electrical shock and heat, the last thing one would expect would be for it to sit and howl.

Some of these howling reports may be imprecise language on the part of the witnesses. AR91 is a very good example of a sighting with the dogs clearly howling.

In AR12, a dog trying to escape its crate while howling suggests that the stimulus causing the howling was overwhelming.

Electrical effects and EM effects

McC Campbell (1976) suggests dog reactions may be responses to microwaves associated with the UFO, and thinks that an artificial state of fear may be produced by this radiation.

He also thinks there is an association between physiological effects, electrical shock feeling, and EM type reactions on engines.

Rasmussen (1980) refers to a study indicating that, under certain experimental circumstances, electromagnetic waves can be detected by the central nervous system.

Ackerman (1989) suggests an electromagnetic propulsion system with a side effect generating an electric field in the area of the UFO.

One would intuitively expect that dogs would be reactive to at least some of these effects. Thus far there is little support for this theory, as the percentage of sightings with these effects is low—with the exception of a possible relationship between howling dogs and EM effects.

These effects, like most secondary effects, are scattered among sightings without any clear correlation with behaviors.

About half of the sightings in the electric effect-EM compilation have various sounds reported as well. Although sightings with howling dogs also have a somewhat higher percentage of EM effects, far more sightings are needed to determine the reality of this relationship.

Mesmerized dogs?

The dog reactions in two totally independent UFO events were amazingly similar, involving totally atypical behavior for the dogs. There is no similarity in the UFO descriptions, and witnesses



*In the famous 1971 Delphos, KS, case investigated by Ted Phillips, both Ronald Johnson and his outdoor dog Snowball were present when the object "took off." Ronald was temporarily blinded. Snowball seemed to show only moderate reaction to the event at the time, but did look up into the sky as the object left. Later, however, Snowball uncharacteristically tried to get into the house, was frightened by high-pitched sounds, avoided the area where the UFO had sat, and ran into fences as if he did not see them. See the book *Delphos, A Close Encounter of the Second Kind*, available from MUFON.*

did not report sound in either case.

AR99 is a 2000 North Carolina sighting. The witness called the Fund for UFO Research, who called me.

I talked to the witness, Lee, at length a number of times, and also corresponded by mail and arranged for MUFON to send a field investigator to interview the witness in person.

This sighting should not be included in this study as it does not meet the criteria in that the dog behavior and UFO sighting were not simultaneous. However, I am making an exception.

Lee was a security guard, and walked an outdoor route regularly around the fenced perimeter of the plant where he worked.

Two boxer-pit bull type dogs lived nearby, their yard adjacent to the plant's fence. Without exception, the two dogs charged and barked and behaved aggressively when Lee walked his circuit.

This night, at 7 PM, Lee started to walk his circuit, and did not see or hear the dogs. He was so surprised that he went to look for them. He found them

sitting next to one another, both looking up into the air.

Lee followed their gaze, but saw nothing. He called and tried to get their attention. One dog ignored him, continuing to look upward, and the other glanced at him and then returned its gaze upward.

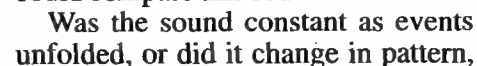
As Lee left the area, walking his usual circuit, the dogs remained in place gazing upward. When Lee came out about two hours later, the dogs were normally loud and aggressive, and have remained so without fail ever since.

But as Lee patrolled the grounds on his 9 PM circuit, he had a sighting of a perfectly straight row of 15-20 lights in a variety of colors that he thought to be about 500 feet from him.

As he watched, the lights faded one by one in a very systematic manner from the end lights inward. He heard no sound. He was convinced there was a relationship between the dogs' behavior and the UFO.

Compare the North Carolina dogs' behavior to the dogs of AR98, a sight-

Interestingly, witnesses do not report sound in these “mesmerized” dog sightings, but the behavior of the dogs suggest they are hearing something.



Although the animals may be fright-

ened, their behavior is not abnormal. A piece of farm equipment driven into a field with cattle that have not seen this particular piece of equipment before can cause them to stampede equally as well as a low flying UFO.

A limb that suddenly falls off a dead tree will keep sheep away from that area for days. A strange car driven along the property line of a farm will produce full-cry, endless alarm barking by the resident dog.

Sirens or some musical instruments will make some dogs howl. A strange car pulling into the driveway will make some cats vanish. A rapidly approaching, low altitude small aircraft will disturb chickens if they are not accustomed to it.

The physical presence of the UFO itself, its movement, and its sound appear the most important factors in causing animals to react.

Birds and ungulates are prey animals with eyes on the sides of their heads, giving them panoramic vision to allow them early detection of distant movement signaling a potential predator in their vicinity. Vision is their most important sense.

If an object appears where "no object has been before," they will alert. If the object is unfamiliar, moves toward them, and/or produces an unfamiliar sound, they will go into anti-predator mode and run.

Dogs and cats are predators, and their vision is more frontal, giving them better depth perception for locating and attacking prey. They tend to be near-sighted, but are sensitive to motion.

They may not detect the physical presence of a UFO until it is near them if it is silent, odorless, and moving stealthily. Smell and hearing are their major senses, and UFO sound is the most likely thing to trigger their alarm.

EM effects, physiological effects on witnesses during the sighting, light beams and terrestrial lighting, odors, wind, haze, and mist generated from the UFO are all present erratically in sightings with animal reactions, and may be important in any one sighting.

But in cases when animals do react to UFOs, witnesses report sound more frequently and consistently than any of these other secondary features, and

conversely, sound is conspicuously absent when animals do not react.

The normalcy and reasonableness of animal reactions to UFO events is positive evidence suggesting that witnesses are accurately reporting the events that occurred, and further suggesting that something unusual happened that is puzzling to witnesses and is affecting animals as well.

Based on the sensory abilities and normal behavior of animals, a logical relationship appears to exist between the various features of UFOs and how a variety of animals react to these features.

Suggested questions for witnesses

An important thing to keep in mind is that animals present during a UFO event that do not react are as interesting as those who do. Likewise, an IFO event with animals that react, or not, is of interest.

Ask if animals are present (before asking if they reacted). If present, where were they during the event? Only then ask how the animal(s) reacted.

If animals were present and did not react, this is important. This is a big piece of the animal puzzle that is missing. Get the same information as if the animal did react.

Was the animal indoors or outdoors? If indoors, could it see outdoors?

If light beams or terrestrial lighting occurred, what was lit up—the fields, the barn, the house, the witness, the animal?

If sound is reported, characterize it in as much detail as possible (see questions at end of dog section above).

What was the duration of the animal's reaction?

I look forward to addressing specific questions raised in this report, and to verify or refute them with continued data collection.

I am always interested in hearing about sightings with animals present, and would be happy to help with them in any way I can.

My email is sky.cat@att.net

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The religion connection

Alien Scriptures: Extraterrestrials in the Holy Bible by Rev. Michael J. S. Carter, M. Div., (Blue Star Publications, ISBN 1-881542-76-9), 2005. Paper, \$10.95.

Reviewed by Dr. Barry Downing

MUFON Consultant, Theology

This is another book dealing with UFOs and the Bible, and the middle chapters of the book deal with material that has been considered in many publications. But there are several things that set this book apart.

Carter has earned his Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York, one of the leading liberal Protestant seminaries in the United States.

This means he has been trained in the historical and critical approach to Scriptures. He sees the Bible as a source of spiritual truth, but not necessarily as an infallible source of spiritual truth, as do more conservative Christian pastors.

I commend Union Seminary for letting Carter write his senior thesis dealing with UFOs; few seminaries would do this.

Carter is Black, and has experienced racial prejudice. He says, like "many AfricanAmericans (actually I am of African, Cherokee, Creek, and European Lineage) born in this country whose ancestors are from the southern region of the United States, my parents were and are deeply religious people Jesus was the example of living a committed life." (p. 2)

His own experience of racial prejudice makes him suspicious of those who indict the "Grays" or "Reptillians" as evil, while seeing the blond blue-eyed

"Pleiadians" as good and loving.

"Intergalactic racism is a very real phenomenon in my humble opinion and needs to be called out when it is evident." (p. 23)

What also sets Carter apart from others (like myself) who have explored the relation between UFOs and the Bible is that Carter is a UFO experimenter.

He has had bedroom visitations since Dec. 28, 1989, and it is not clear these visitations have ended.

During his initial visitation, he awakened to a room full of light, and saw a being at the foot of his bed, a being that looked somewhat like those described by Whitley Strieber in *Communion*.

Likewise, like Strieber, his female partner slept through Carter's experience, and he could not awaken her after it was over.

Eventually Carter turned to Harold Egelin, Jr.'s support group S.P.A.C.E to maintain his sanity, and has discussed his experiences with abduction researchers such as Budd Hopkins. He has lectured in the New York City area concerning what he sees as the meaning of the UFO experience.

It appears that only one visitation involved anything like verbal communication with the visitors. On one occasion a voice whispered "you're going to be rich and famous" (p. 22), although as Carter notes, this has not happened yet.

Carter then moves in his book to a brief summary of UFOs in history, then to UFO reports in the Old Testament and New Testament.

Finally he concludes with what for me is the most important chapter in the book, "If UFOs are Real, What Does this Mean for the Judeo-Christian Biblical Doctrine?"

Perhaps the best single sentence summary in this chapter is, "The UFO phenomenon must force us to rethink our concept of the sacred." (p. 101) To this I would add, "Of course, no one wants to do this."

Michael Carter and I have been friends for about a decade, before he entered Union Seminary. (He is now a Board Certified hospital chaplain.) We do not agree on the ways to interpret some of the biblical evidence, as he says in his book.

He has difficulty in supposing the angels of God would kill the first-born in Egypt (at Jewish Passover), as I have argued (p. 109). The difficulty is, do we want a powerful God, or a nice God? Obviously, we would prefer both.

Carter's book does not solve the theological problems that UFOs present.

At the same time, he raises questions that have been left untouched by the larger Judeo-Christian community, questions that will have to be dealt with eventually.

The international UFO cover-up has given religious leaders an excuse to avoid dealing with the questions concerning the meaning of the sacred in the light of the UFO experience. There is huge power in the UFO reality itself, whatever it is.

Until we know better, we may suppose that UFO power is either divine power, or something that we easily confuse with divine power. Either way, I hope we do not have to have another Passover to make us face this power squarely.

A nice God would not do that of course. But a powerful God might.

State & local newsletters

If your group is not currently sending your newsletter to the *Journal*, we would appreciate receiving it.

Case reports

Investigators and State Directors. Please send a copy of your case reports directly to the *MUFON UFO Journal*, including copies of any photos and drawings.





filer's FILES

Director, MUFON Eastern Region

Note: These reports are presented in order to keep readers informed of some of the vast number of sightings being reported. However, these cases have not been officially investigated, unless noted.

UFO shoots down Atlas Missile

Clark McClelland, former ScO, Space Shuttle Fleet, KSC, Florida, writes, "I have a VERY important disclosure of a Atlas ICBM being shot down by a UFO!"

"Lt. Jacobs from Bradley University was on active duty in 1964, observing with a telescope the launch of an Atlas Missile that had been fired from Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA, over the Pacific Ocean.



George Filer

"It was traveling 11,000 to 14,000 mph, when a saucer-shaped craft entered the frame...and shot a beam of light at the warhead.

"Now, remember all this is flying at several thousand miles an hour. This thing shoots another beam of light at the warhead, then flies away as it came in. The warhead tumbles out of space.

"When the lights came on, Maj. Mansmann turned around and says to me, "Were you guys screwing around up there?" I said, 'No Sir.'

"He said, 'What was that? Dr. Jacobs says, 'It looked to me like we got a UFO.'"

To the right is the confirmation letter from Maj. Mansmann.

Argentina water tanks emptied

"LA CABA'A" RANCH - CIUFOS-La Pampa (Raul Oscar Chaves) reports, "In the early morning hours of Oct. 31, 2005, a 70,000 liters January 2006

MANEMANN RANCHES
5716 East Jensen Avenue
Pismo, California 93425

December 26, 1997

Mr. Clark McClelland
P.O. Box 11362
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Dear Mr. McClelland:

Received your letter of November 20, 1997. I verify that the UFO sighting occurred during the motion picture shooting of an ICBM during flight at Vandenberg AFB in June 1964.

I have several 8" x 10" black and white glossies of the crew, equipment, and instrumentation used to capture this incident. For many years, I was under oath to not reveal any of the information contained in the film. I released information only after some data regarding the film's content appeared in several national publications.

In response to your letter, I am writing to verify that the sighting was true, and to grant you authorization to mention my name, rank, and position in regards to the UFO sighting incident.

I wish you all the luck in the world for the successful publication and sale of your book. I would like to also thank you for the copies of the signed astronaut photos and to mention the fact that my son was quality control officer on the space shuttle program for many years as a Major in the United States Air Force.

Sorry for the delay in responding to your letter.

Respectfully,

Florent J. Mansmann, Major USAF Ret.

tank of water used to provide liquid to livestock was found completely empty.

Miguel Garrone, who leases the "La Caba'a" ranch, says the tank was filled to the maximum on Saturday evening. There were no signs of breakage or leakage, nor signs of moisture in its perimeter that could provide an answer to the mysterious disappearance.

The astonished livestock rancher indicated that this is not the first time tanks have been emptied. The ranch is located some 15 km south of Parera, La Pampa.

On July 2, 2005, on a ranch some 4 km from Quetrequon, another 70,000 liters of water vanished in a similar fashion. Mutilated animals were also found in this area.

Note: One of the most startling aspects of the 2002 cattle mutilation wave in Argentina was the disappearance of tremendous amounts of water from the

large cisterns known as "tanques australianos" (literally, Australian tanks). Entire swimming pools were drained. Psychic Silvia Browne, a guest on TV's Montel Williams Show, said a US swimming pool was drained "by UFOs." Translation (c) 2005 Scott Corrales, IHU.

UFO sucks pool water in Texas

HOUSTON - My wife and I, who are both 50-year-old professionals, were awakened at 4:32 AM by a shuddering that was making our house vibrate, and a single laser beam type of light that was flashing into our residence on Nov. 15, 2005.

"I peered out the sliding glass doors and saw an oval-shaped object, 50 to 60 feet long hovering over our swimming pool. My wife joined me, and we noted it was 25 to 30 feet high, and was putting out a golden glow from its bot-

tom. The craft had a very low golden sheen and looked almost transparent.

"You couldn't see through the object, but it was easy to miss it. The craft was within 60 feet from our second floor balcony bedroom window.

"It was shuddering or vibrating in waves. We both were in shock, and were afraid to make any sound.

"Our cats ran underneath the wooden deck that surrounds our swimming pool, and our dog lay down with his head between his paws.

"We watched the craft hover for about five minutes, then it rose slowly, almost straight up. The next morning, the water level of the swimming pool had dropped six inches from the time of the incident. That is really the only significant and viable impact the craft left besides the clocks all losing about five minutes."

Thanks to Peter Davenport, Director, UFO Center, www.ufocenter.com.

Puerto Rico UFO takes sea water

VIEQUES ISLAND – Witness Carlos Zenan is a Viequense fisherman who claims UFO/alien incidents have been occurring since at least 1996.

He says he was fishing out at sea a couple of miles south of La Esperanza about 9 PM when he saw several very bright spheres of light come out from the top of Cerro Ventana Mountain.

"These globes of light were of a blue-white hue and seemed to come right out from the top of the hill. They circled the hill and flew out to sea, flying right over. You could hear a slight hissing from them.

"Later they returned to Playa Grande and Cerro Ventana, areas controlled by the US Navy, and disappeared inside the mountain. It was as if they had merged with the side of the mountain."

Carlos states, "The most impressive event was when we encountered a huge object at night while out at sea fishing. I was with Anabal Corcino and his father, who yelled, and I saw this huge craft come out from the sea near the Playa Grande lagoon, where the Navy's (Raytheon) ROTH radar system is installed.

"It was an extraordinary huge craft, immense, with many lights all around it. It was a flying saucer, a round disc-



like craft, but really huge in size.

"It was clearly visible due to its size, and it had yellow, blue, and red lights all over it. It was taking in water from the sea.

"The water at the sea's surface was swirling in a circle like a whirlpool. It seemed to be going up into the saucer in a column of water swirling like in a blender. It looked to be about 40 to 50 feet in diameter.

"A column of bright green light like a powerful spotlight was coming out from under the object. The beam came out downwards, vertically, and the water went up into the saucer through the beam of light.

"After that, the object flew away to the west at a fantastic speed and disappeared in a matter of seconds."

Thanks to Jorge Martin, editor of *ENIGMAS del Milenio Magazine*.

Peru photo of possible alien

LIMA – Don Ware writes, "I'm forwarding photos taken by Alfa Bidondo while in the Hotel San Remo in Lima. He was there as a speaker from Argentina at the second World UFO Forum.

"You may want to share image #161 (above), appearing in his digital camera while set on automatic, with your audience. Image #166 is apparently related, but quite blurry and less interesting.

"This image was not seen visually, but at another time while in the room Alfa and a member of the host organization, Alpha Y Omega, both saw an anomalous light appear between them.

"Alfa and his brothers are noted for the interaction on camera and video of inter-dimensional beings and ships appearing while he meditates."

Thanks to Alpha Y Omega and Don Ware.

Florida black triangle

GAINESVILLE – The witness reports, "I was getting in my car, and movement overhead caught my eye on Oct. 20, 2005, at 6:14 PM. I spotted a very slow moving and very low overhead craft that was absolutely enormous.

"At first I thought perhaps it was a stealth bomber, but realized it wasn't possible, as it was so low, moving so slowly, and did not make a sound.

"It was a perfectly clear night an hour after sunset, with the stars shining and the moon rising.

"The object was barely visible, but had very dim lights around its edges—roughly as bright as the dimmest stars—that distorted the background sky to conceal itself.

"It flew due east, and I watched as it passed over the roof of the adjacent building. I followed the best I could, but I had no luck and nearly got in an accident. Incidentally, I have a BS in psychology." Thanks to Peter Davenport.

Michigan intersecting lights

WESTLAND – The witness says, "I saw three lines of lights in an intersecting formation slowly flying over my house at about the same level as a helicopter would fly on Oct. 16, 2005, at 9:20 PM, but it wasn't a helicopter.

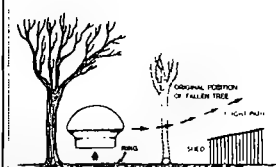
"I've seen many planes and helicopters, but nothing like this! It was the size of a football field, but there was nobody I could see, just lights. Also there was no sound."

Thanks to Peter Davenport

Virginia glowing golden object

WASHINGTON COUNTY – A VDOT employee stated that he was proceeding north on I-81 around 10 PM about June 10, 2005, when a glowing golden round object descended ahead of him on the interstate and paced his car for a few seconds.

Three persons were in the car, all having seen this object. After a few seconds, the object sped away ahead of them, disappearing from sight. Thanks to Kim Shaffer.



Physical Traces

By Ted Phillips

Levitation cases

Last month I noted some of the more interesting levitation cases—people, animal, and objects somehow lifted into the air by UFOs—up to August, 1983.

Since I specialize in physical traces—which include residue, animal/human effects, and physical effects—these types of levitation cases interest me the most.

There are, of course, numerous levitation cases that do not involve physical traces.

Following are additional levitation events involving physical traces and human/animal effects.

Anyone having additional details on these or other cases of this type are asked to share their information.

08/00/83 2200 Velhas, Brazil—Male witness, man levitated, human effects.

08/07/83 Winifreda, Argentina—Farmer levitated, human effects.

08/15/83 2200 Bom Jesus, Brazil—Maria Dos Dolores Lopes was 47 at the time of the event.

"It was right here, out in front of the house," she explains. "My two daughters and I went outside one night to take our dog for a walk before putting him in the kennel for the night. It was about ten o'clock."

The daughters are Marileide, then 15, and Maria Da Guia, 13. Their dog was a large, black mongrel called Doggie.

"We were out in the front yard, about 15 meters [46 feet] from the house, and I saw what I thought was a light in the sky. I was watching it, and I thought it was very beautiful. It was like a rainbow.

"Then my younger daughter screamed 'Its coming down! Its coming down! Let's go!' and I said, 'No, it's not coming down.'

"But I was wrong. It WAS coming down, and very quickly. It was a very intense white light shaped like a big tub. It looked like a fishing net. The light lit up the ground all around us."

The younger daughter, Maria DaGuia, was closer to the house than the others and was able to run inside. But her mother and sister and the dog were "captured" by the light coming from the object, and they found themselves pulled into the air.

"I felt this cold wind all around me, pulling us up," the mother said. "I couldn't touch the ground, I was off the ground. When I tried to lift my leg, I felt a cold wind like when someone opens a refrigerator. We were about a meter off the ground. I was wearing a very large skirt, and the wind filled it with air, blowing it up around me."

The mother and daughter were both screaming, but the dog, almost paralyzed with fright, made no sound, not even a whimper.

"I was yelling for them to run," said the mother, "but they couldn't run. I had one hand on Marileide's arm and the dog's leash wrapped around the other. He was close to me. I tried to push Marileide away toward the house, but I couldn't.

"At the same time I was trying to run, but my feet weren't touching anything. I was running in the air. Marileide couldn't run either, and she was crying. The dog was cowering.

"I wasn't able to do anything. I tried to look up at the thing, and could see it was spinning, but I was very afraid. The wind was like a hurricane, going in circles."

It ended as quickly as it began. "The fishing net suddenly went straight up into the sky," said the mother.

As the light moved silently away, the

cold wind stopped, and the two women and their dog dropped to the ground. The mother and Marileide landed in a squatting position facing the house, but neither was able to stand up or say anything.

Shocked and trembling with fright, they began crawling toward the house. The dog crawled alongside them with his belly scraping the ground, his ears bent down, and his tail between his legs.

Once inside the house, neither the mother nor Marileide could speak for a half hour. The mother called the "net" a tarrafa, which is a circular net cast in shallow waters.

This was not the only case in Brazil in which victims described a "net" in conjunction with an encounter.

It was five months before the mother got up enough courage to go outside at night. Marileide recovered more quickly than her mother. The dog apparently suffered no ill effects, but was hit by a car several years later. (Thanks to Bob Pratt)

10/15/83 2030 Bellwood, PA—A woman was driving when an object approached car. The object was some 24 feet in diameter and hovered above the vehicle, which was levitated 2-3 feet off the pavement. There were human effects. (*MUFON UFO Journal* November, 1983)

11/01/83 2200 Valley of the Old Women, Brazil—Geraldo Gomes and his wife Angela were walking down a hill 300 yards from their home when "suddenly a big light lit up everything behind us," explains Geraldo.

"I looked over my shoulder and saw a bright light 300 meters away. It was bluish-white, and bright enough we could see where we were walking. The light was coming out of a hole in something dark, but I couldn't tell the shape or color of the object itself because the light was so bright.

"All I saw was a dark form. We continued walking, and I looked back



Ted Phillips

again, and the object was suddenly very close, only 20 meters away. It got to us in no time. It was the size of a minibus. I heard a sound like a refrigerator motor.

"Then it was right on top of us. I was hot. I felt like I was near a fire. It made me sweat, and my clothes were wet. The light went out, and I felt something soft touching my shoulder, but I couldn't see what it was. I reached back, and it felt like a soft towel, and suddenly my feet were suspended above the ground.

"I tried to push the thing away, but I was lifted up about 70 cm [just over two feet] above the ground and carried for about ten meters. Angela saw I was being taken away. She panicked and grabbed me and pulled me back down."

Angela said, "It looked like he was dancing in the air. I was very afraid."

She grabbed her husband and pulled him back down, and the object immediately moved back in the direction it had come from. A few seconds later the light came on again about a hundred yards away and hovered motionless above some dense bushes.

"Angela was screaming her head off and then fainted," said Geraldo. "I picked her up and carried her down the hill. She quickly revived and we both began running.

"When we got to the bottom of the hill the object came back close to us again. We were both screaming, and my relatives saw it. My father-in-law came out of the house with a light to help us, and then the object went away for good."

08/00/87 Ismeraldas, Brazil—Joao de Jesus, coming home on a very dark night, saw a light coming toward him. It went out, and within seconds he saw a silhouette in front of him.

It was a spherical object with two landing legs six meters away. In order to see better, he tried to turn on a flashlight, but it wouldn't work.

He tried to light a match, but when he was about to strike the match, he was pushed and lifted off the ground to his rear. He estimated he was moved about 10 meters quickly, but not violently.

When he was pushed and levitated he couldn't feel anything—no pressure,

nothing touching him. After falling on the ground he saw nothing more.

His eyes were swollen, and he couldn't see correctly. He had to crawl home. For three days he stayed in his room and kept the door locked. He couldn't stand any kind of light.

08/06/87 2300 Cimolais, Italy—Male witness, red light beam from object, car levitated 40km, traces.

01/20/88 0430 Mundrabilla, Australia—Mrs. Knowles, her sons Sean, 21, Patrick, 24, and Wayne, 18, were driving east from Perth when they had to swerve to miss a large bright glowing object on the road.

It was "bright and white with a yellow center, shaped like an egg and about 1 meter wide," she said. They observed the object as it chased a truck and a car before it turned and caught up with the Knowles vehicle.

"It landed on the roof and lifted the car from the road," said Mrs. Knowles. She had reached out her window and felt the base of the object, which she described as "like a rubber suction pad."

Suitcases packed on the roof were gone. The car became covered with a black ash-like substance and it came into the car like smoke. The dogs in the car were going crazy.

The car was levitated, except for the front tire which blew out. At that point the car was dropped heavily back on the road.

The family jumped from the car and hid in the brush until the object left 30 minutes later. They contacted police when they reached the next town. The car had dents on the roof. Truck drivers also saw the object.

09/16/89 0000 Nicolayev, Russia—A young woman who worked at a meat packing plant had left her job early to catch the tramway home. She was alone as she approached the tramway and suddenly realized she was being levitated to a height of 160 feet.

The whole crew leaving the plant saw her floating in the air, alongside an unknown object. The crew started yelling and screaming, and eventually she was returned to the ground. (Thanks to Vallee)

10/11/89 1800 Nalchik, Russia—A 16-year-old girl, Natasha Barinova, in

a courtyard, was approached by an object. She saw a net falling toward her, and in the center of the net was a bright, white point. She tried to push it back and felt an electric shock.

When she screamed, her voice became shrill and sharp as if acoustic waves had been distorted by the atmosphere around her. Her family rushed out of the house and saw her in the air, with a flying disk hovering less than 50 feet away.

The disk vanished, and she found herself back on the ground. She was paralyzed for a while. "It was as if something had tried to pull the skin from my fingers," she said. The tips of her fingers were enlarged." (Thanks to Vallee)

12/03/90 2320 Jozsa, Hungary—Male witness, car EM, humanoid, car levitated and turned around.

05/19/91 1800 Campo Redondo, Brazil—Moises Vasco Campelo, 39, reports, "I was walking home passing an imbu tree and all of a sudden there was a big headlight focused on me. This light covered me. It was all around me, and I felt a tremendous heat.

"I felt as if I was being sucked up. When it was happening, I wasn't afraid, but afterwards I got really scared. I was raised about one and a half meters off the ground. This lasted about three minutes, and then they let me down very gently.

"Then it moved off a ways, but I still saw this bright light. Then they came back and got me again. This time I felt very cold, and I was paralyzed. I couldn't talk. I couldn't move. This lasted 15 minutes.

"During the time I was paralyzed, the thing was above me, going around and around and around. It finally left, and I was blind in one eye. My eye swelled so much I couldn't see. Fifteen minutes after I got home it was still visible near the church."

08/00/91 1900 Lajes, Brazil—Maria Natividade Cavalcante, 56, went to get water in a drum under an agarobe tree. As she returned, she was covered by a light of many colors. She could feel it pulling on her, and she squatted down. As it pulled, she felt heat on her body, but was very cold inside. She was numb. She was in shock and couldn't

talk for some period of time after the event.

12/26/91 2350 Bekes, Hungary—Male witness, 4m object, beam, witnesses levitated, humanoid, severe human effects.

03/14/92 0100 Ariqueemes, Brazil—3m object, silent, 3m above ground, yellow light, ports, male witnesses feel pulled toward object.

08/28/92 Campo, Brazil—Man, wife, and three daughters were walking home in the early evening. A brilliant light approached, and they were levitated briefly. They hid under a cashew tree until the object finally left. The tree died within days.

09/20/92 1930 Sao Francisco de Paula, Brazil—Rectangular object, beam pulls witnesses, independent witnesses confirm.

09/13/94 1730 Las Vegas, NM—Daylight, witness heard a humming sound and watched as three cows were levitated and pulled uphill through trees. The animals were found dead beyond the trees.

02/27/95 2100 Runcorn, England—Male witness, sphere with black beam that changes shape to rectangular, levitates water from Mersey River.

02/27/96 0150 Lugo, Spain—Independent observers, car levitated, set down across road, EM—car clock stopped.

12/00/96 0200 Hobart, Tasmania—Independent reports, humanoid, attempt to levitate child through roof of building.

02/25/99 1200 Washington State—Forestry workers observed a shiny disc some nine feet in diameter approaching a herd of elk. The herd ran, but one elk ran another direction. The object descended over the animal and seemed to levitate the elk.

The object, with the animal turning slowly under it, made a long turning ascent and flew away slowly. A female elk was found dead a mile away along the flight path; no apparent cause of death.

05/00/00 Vieques, Puerto Rico—Angel Encarnacion, a fisherman, said that “while fishing out at sea we saw, in the distance a really big and shining light. Getting closer, we saw that it was a huge round saucer object with lots of

lights turning on and off all around it.

“On the bottom middle there was a really big green light, aimed at the ocean’s surface. It wasn’t more than 100 feet above the ocean. What shocked me most was seeing the object absorb water from the ocean.

“You could actually see a big volume of water rising and entering the object. There was never any sound.”

10/19/00 2200 Chiu-Chiu, Chile—Fresia Vega, custodian at the San Francisco de Chiu-Chiu school, and student Valentina Rojas Espinoza observed a large object, perhaps 300 ft in diameter, surrounded by lights of every color which hovered at close range.

“In its middle it had a door which opened and from which there came a light that blinded me and left me paralyzed,” said Mrs. Vega. “I then felt my self being sucked in through that door, and I felt a tingling sensation all over my body. Voices became very far away and I froze.”

Student Valentina says, “I felt cold, and my blood froze. I was very scared, and I hid behind Mrs. Fresia, but then I looked out and everything was clear. I would speak to Mrs. Fresia, but she wouldn’t answer me. She couldn’t speak, as if she’d gone away. I was very scared.

“The experience was long, over three minutes. It took hours before we recovered our body temperature. Children outside the school also saw the object but did not experience the same effects.

“There was a loud blast, and teachers ran out to see what was happening. Dogs began barking and did not stop all night.

“At the same time, television signals were lost all over the town, but electrical power was not disrupted.”

The state police stated, “Two residents had their eyesight damaged by the glare, and others left the village on foot.”

08/02/02 Jacinto Arauz, Argentina—Raul Dorado, 64, reported a green circle with three legs hovering above him, making a sound. It was daylight.

He fell to the ground, and a cell phone he was holding in his left hand was levitated into the object. He felt paralyzed and couldn’t stand up for an hour after the object left.



Feb. 26-March 4-15—Annual International UFO Congress Convention & Film Festival, Flamingo Resort, Laughlin, NV, featuring Christian Frehner, Michael Cremo, Dr. William Tiller, Wendelle Stevens, Michael Horn, Robert Cook, Colin Andrews, Philip Mantle, Scott Ramsey, Paul Davids, Don Ledger, Ryan Wood, Maurizio Baiata, Greg Bishop, Jorge Martin, George Knapp, Budd Hopkins, David Jacobs, Peter Robbins, A. J. Gevaerd, and others to be announced. 3 0 3 - 6 5 1 - 7 1 3 6 ,
u f o c o n g r e s s @ m s n . c o m ,
www.ufocongress.com.

April 14, 15, and 16—18th Annual Ozark UFO Conference, Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR, featuring Timothy Good, Linda Moulton Howe, Wendelle Stevens, Nancy Talbott, Joe Lewells, Paul Von Ward, Dr. Rudy Schild, Norman Oliver, and additional speakers, plus Sunday morning mini-sessions. web1f123@webtv.net
ozarkufo.com

June 16-18—sgra conference, Howard Johnson Motel, Milford, CT, featuring Jeff Belanger, John Zaffis, Stacey Jones, Stephen Wagner, Nick Roesler, Diane Bajorinas, Jon Nowinski, Todd Bates, Dr. Jimmy Lowerey, and Mark Mihalko. www.sgra-media.org.

July 14-16, 2006—The 37th Annual MUFON International UFO Symposium, Marriott Denver Tech Center Hotel, Denver, CO. The theme is “Unconventional Flying Objects: The Best Evidence.”

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PERCEPTIONS

By Stanton T. Friedman

Susan Clancy and abductions

I hadn't had high hopes for the book *Abducted: How people Come to Believe They Have been Kidnapped by Aliens* by Dr. Susan A. Clancy (Harvard University Press, 2005, 179 pages).

After all, the segment about abductions which featured her on Peter Jennings' grossly-misleading "documentary" on Feb. 24 was definitely unscientific.

The focus was on sleep paralysis, with no recognition being given to multiple persons being abducted at once, that most abductions take place other than when the abductee was sleeping in bed, or that many people recalled the details without the use of hypnosis.

This despite the fact that all of these had been discussed by Budd Hopkins during his PJ interview, but never made the program.

Still I was shocked by how much bias and prejudice she shows in the book. She should have been flunked for her gross inaccuracy in her accounts, brief though they were, of various cases about which I am well informed.

Remember that her so-called research was conducted at Harvard University using government research grants, and the book was published by Harvard University Press. I guess they couldn't afford a fact checker.

She describes how she got into abduction research because she had been working on the false memory syndrome with regard to sexual abuse of children.

There was always the problem of determining whether any abuse had ever taken place.

Abductions would be much easier, she says, because "Here was a group that had 'repressed memories,' but the memories would be much less painful to hear about than memories of childhood sexual abuse."

No basis is given for this silly proclamation. Dr. Benjamin Simon, an outstanding psychiatrist who used medi-

cal hypnosis to help numerous shell-shocked war veterans regain horrifying memories and work through them, had even told Dr. James McDonald that the intensity of emotion in the Betty and Barney Hill sessions was sometimes more intense than any he had found in the military cases he had treated.

She goes on to say, "Even better, alien abductees were people who had



Stan Friedman

developed memories of a traumatic event that I could be fairly certain had never occurred. A major problem with my research on false memory creation by victims of al-

leged sexual abuse was that it was almost impossible to determine whether they had in fact, been abused.

"I needed to repeat the study with a population that I could be sure had 'recovered' false memories. Alien abduction seemed to fit the bill."

She notes how she would use the same techniques with the abductees as with the sexual abuse people, and addressed the "corroboration issue since it was certain the event hadn't happened."

It is hard to imagine so called research starting out with such strong bias. Is this what passes for research at Harvard University?

Dr. Clancy describes how she got her study population. She advertised in newspapers seeking subjects, asking, "Have you been abducted by aliens?"

She dumped any she thought were psychotic, for which, I suppose, we should be grateful. It isn't clear that she accepted any subjects who claimed that they had been abducted with somebody else and not out of their beds and who

hadn't been hypnotized.

She does admit her preconceptions that people thinking they had been abducted played Dungeons and Dragons as a kid, were a computer programmer or a sci-fi buff, and had attended Star Trek conventions.

What is really crazy here to me as a scientist is that normally one expects somebody beginning research in a new area to do a literature search first. She couldn't be bothered.

However, she insists, "I believe I have read every account of alien abduction ever published, and just about everything that social psychologists, psychoanalysts, post modernists, journalists, physicists, biologists and ex-military personal (sic) have to say about them...I've watched nearly every American movie and TV show ever made about aliens."

If she did, she must have been sleepwalking, as she seems to get almost everything wrong.

Here is a typical example of her gross inaccuracy. Speaking of a meeting with a number of abductees she says, "Highlight of Saturday evening was a conversation with two brothers from Manchester, NH. These men were relatively well known abductees who had written a book about their experiences."

"One night in the late 1960s they had been canoeing on a lake in Maine and had seen some weird lights across the water. A few years later one had fallen down an elevator shaft at work; he'd suffered brain damage, developed epilepsy and became severely depressed."

The simple fact of the matter is that there were four people involved, not two, and the event took place in August, 1976, not in the 1960s.

The book, *The Allagash Abductions*, was written by an experienced investigator, engineer Raymond Fowler, not by the brothers. It was based on data obtained independently from each of the four.

The book is, of course, not referenced although she has 14 pages of noted references, including 146 items. Her own "research" papers were each cited several times.

Clancy not only seems to consider herself a truly knowledgeable abductionist, but also an expert on UFOs in general: "So far as we know there is no evidence that aliens exist. You can't disprove alien abductions. All you can do is argue that they're improbable."

Obviously she didn't intend this next comment to be referring to herself: "The confirmatory bias—the tendency to seek or interpret evidence favorable to existing belief or reinterpret unfavorable evidence is ubiquitous, even among scientists."

Amen, and she provides many examples of her own tendency: "We don't accept the alien abduction explanation because there is no external evidence to support it."

Isn't it amazing that she never discusses physical trace cases, at least 16% of which involve reports of strange beings. She doesn't mention the many cases in which abductees separately confirm that missing time.

She never mentions Marjorie Fish's star map work connected with the Betty and Barney Hill case, though she does mention the case. As might be expected her comments are seriously in error.

She says "Betty had spotted a bright star that seemed to be pursuing them. Nervous, they had turned off the main highway onto narrow mountain roads arriving home two hours later than expected." And she claims to have read *The Interrupted Journey*???

Sounds to me like she read a *Parade Magazine* piece by Carl Sagan which makes the same false claim. It would be interesting to know just where Clancy's misinformation comes from besides her fertile imagination, as she gets virtually everything wrong.

She certainly hadn't read the book carefully or Terence Dickinson's "The Zeta Reticuli Incident," or watched the "UFO Incident" on NBC, or spoken with Betty or Barney or Dr. Simon or John Fuller or even Betty's niece Kathy Marden, very familiar with the case and possessor of Betty's files.

John Fuller's files are at Boston University, not far from Harvard. Clancy obviously hadn't been there either. I have done all these things.

Demonstrating both her bias and ignorance she claims Betty and Barney Hill became famous in abduction history in the 1960s because, in the words of Seth Shostak, an astronomer associated with the SETI Institute, "they were more or less Mr. and Mrs. Front Porch."

An interracial couple in New England in 1961 were hardly Mr. and Mrs. Front Porch, whatever that is supposed to mean. Surely no reasonable person could consider Seth Shostak an expert on any aspect of ufology, much less abductions.

Clancy and Shostak certainly share an affinity for "Don't bother me with the facts, my mind is made up," and "What the public doesn't know, I won't tell them," and do your research by proclamation; investigation is too much trouble."

Clancy doesn't discuss the UFO evidence either. She almost gets into the Condon Report with this strange comment, "In 1969 the National Academy of Sciences sponsored a study of all the available evidence on UFOs. The conclusion, 'On the basis of present knowledge, the least likely explanation of unidentified flying objects is the hypothesis of extraterrestrial visitations by intelligent beings.'"

The fact is that this is from a brief summary by the NAS at the beginning of the 965-page Condon report. The NAS didn't sponsor the study. The Air Force did. It was certainly not a study of all available evidence. The NAS review committee did no investigations itself... not one single case.

Clancy misrepresents the Travis Walton case, speaking disdainfully of his books claiming he was abducted two weeks after the Hill case movie and described his experience on national TV.

No mention, of course, of his being gone for 5 days and the initial zapping being observed by five other people, and all the rest of the investigative work done by APRO and others..

As might be expected, Clancy gets Roswell all wrong. She repeats garbage

from Air Force disinformation expert Col. Weaver that Jesse Marcel's story first came out in the *National Enquirer* in 1978, even though it was 1980, and after Bill Moore and I had spoken with 62 people about the case.

I gave the late Bob Pratt, who wrote the article, Jesse's contact information. She has all wrong the date rancher Mac Brazel found the wreckage, the date he came into town, and the date Jesse went out, as well as other details.

Clancy says that *The Roswell Incident* claimed that "pieces of aliens had been among the debris. This was attested to by more than 70 witnesses who had some knowledge of the event."

This is totally false; no such claim is made in the book to which I was a major contributor.

She says "the evidence for a crashed spaceship and dead extraterrestrials was entirely anecdotal, consisting of first hand reports from people who 'wished to remain anonymous' and even more tenuous second and third hand reports (so and so told what's-his-name who told me that such-and-such really happened 30 years ago."

This nonsense comes from a woman claiming to have read everything about UFOs and aliens.

I am a physicist who has written more than 80 UFO articles and two books relating to Roswell, and was a major contributor to *The Roswell Incident*. I am not referenced at all.

There are lots of real people named by me, Don Berliner, Kevin Randle, Don Schmitt (none referenced), and other serious researchers as opposed to Clancy's pseudoscientific claims.

The video "Recollections of Roswell" has first-hand testimony from 27 witnesses—all named.

One could write a lot more about the trash in this book and the self-serving nonsense about being objective. Not surprisingly there is a blurb on the back from Dr. Elizabeth Loftus, one of the leaders of the False Memory Syndrome cult-like group: "Abducted is an enormously brave, smart, original book."

I suppose that is true once one recognizes that most of it is fiction masquerading as truth.

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Director's Message

(Continued from page 2)

to provide financial support as well.

Leslie made a special box—a sort of a piggy bank—that she called “Pandora’s Box.” She brought the box to every meeting of Colorado MUFON and called on meeting attendees to donate to support the Pandora work.

At their December meeting she presented the box containing \$156.86 to MUFON Headquarters, saying, “Use this money for the Pandora work.” Leslie said they will be starting a new box in January, 2006, and issued a challenge to other state directors to do the same thing. Their heartfelt support is appreciated.

Position Announcements

Kevin Green of Blountville, TN, has accepted the position of State Director for Eastern Tennessee. Kevin replaces **Kim Shaffer** in this role. Kim is still active in the field, but was unable to continue as State Director at this time.

Preston Mattke of Spicer, MN, has accepted the position of Research Specialist in Industrial Technology.

Monte McDonald of Las Vegas, NV, has accepted the position of Research Specialist in Education.

Robert Newell of Pharr, TX, has accepted the position of Research Specialist in Education.

New Field Investigators

Kathleen Marden, Director of Field Investigator Training, has announced that **Carl Barlow** of Sierra Vista, AZ; **Lisa A. Shiel** of Lake Linden, MI; and **Kim McKelvey & Sylvia McKelvey** of San Jose, CA; have passed the MUFON Field Investigator’s Exam and are now MUFON Field Investigators.

All Field Investigator Trainees are urged to self-study the *MUFON Field Investigator’s Manual* and take the exam. State Directors, Assistant State Directors, State Section Directors, and State Chief Investigators are good sources of help and training.

The manual is available from MUFON Headquarters for \$25 plus

\$3.50 p&h in the U.S. The total price outside the U.S. is \$32.50. It may also be purchased via the Internet at www.mufon.com using PayPal.

New Lifetime Member

It is a pleasure to announce that **Gail Barton** of Lakewood, CO, is now a MUFON Lifetime Member. Gail serves MUFON in a number of ways, including taking responsibility for the art displays at the annual MUFON International UFO Symposium, providing artwork in support of UFO field investigations, and providing artwork for MUFON publications.

Her work was featured on the cover of the 2003 MUFON symposium pro-

ceedings and also on page 17 of the 2005 MUFON symposium proceedings. We are extremely grateful for this vote of confidence and outstanding level of support to MUFON.

MUFON E-News

MUFON publishes a free E-Newsletter on the Internet. Anyone may join the free newsletter distribution list on the MUFON website at www.mufon.com.

All that is required is listing your name and email address. The email address list is handled by ListBot and is not used for any other purpose. You may withdraw from the list at anytime by clicking on “unsubscribe.”

MUFON Forum

Physical traces (Trancas case)

I want to add some comments to the Villa Trancas case (Oct. 21, 1963, Tucuman, Argentina), commented on by Ted Phillips in the October *MUFON UFO Journal*.

The three sisters of the Moreno family saw two intense lights where human forms moved over the railroad.

Calcium carbonated balls were found the next day in the place where the circular object was seen.

However, in the late 1980s Argentina ufologist Roberto Banch, a skeptic, determined that in those days there were military maneuvers in Cabeza de Buey (Salta Province) which stopped in the de Morenos Family field, and which used anti-aircraft reflectors of great power that confused the witnesses with a UFO.

That’s how he explained the calcium carbonated ball, originated by those reflectors.

Years later, ufologist Oscar Galindez FSR investigator in the 60’s, investigated the case and stated that the hypothesis of Roberto Banch didn’t have consistency.

The last train, Galindez commented,

passed through Trancas at 3 PM, and the sighting occurred at 7 PM, so the lights over the railroad could not have been a train. The military maneuvers were some days later, and in daylight hours. There was found no trace of military vehicles.

With respect to the calcium carbonated balls found in the area, Galindez stated that it could not be due to anti-aircraft reflectors, because these do not expel that amount, and the calcium carbonated residue is deposited in the reflectors trays.

—Claudio Del Rosario, MUFON Field Investigator.

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By Dwight Connelly

Editor, *MUFON UFO Journal*

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The compiling, writing, and editing of this 240-page soft cover book is by Dwight Connelly, *MUFON Journal* editor.

Order from the MUFON.com website, or from the author at 14026 Ridgelawn Road, Martinsville, IL 62442. \$9.95 plus \$2.00 shipping (single or multiple copies). Signed/inscribed copies on request.



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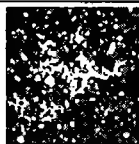
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The Night Sky

By Gavin A. J. McLeod

February

Moon Phases:

First Quarter: Feb. 5

Full Moon: Feb. 13

Last Quarter: Feb. 21

New Moon: Feb. 28

Bright Planets (Evening Sky)

Mercury (magnitude -1.4 to -0.8): From Capricornus through Aquarius into Pisces. For northern hemisphere observers, Mercury will emerge, before midmonth, very low in the west-southwest evening twilight sky.

For less favored southern hemisphere observers, Mercury will be glimpsed only in the third week of the month very low in the west after sunset.

Saturn (magnitude -0.2 to -0.1): In Cancer. For northern hemisphere observers, Saturn will stand about 40 degrees high in the east at the end of evening twilight, and will set in the west-northwest during morning twilight.

For southern hemisphere observers, Saturn will stand nearly 30 degrees high in the northeast at the end of evening twilight and will set near 4 AM in the west-northwest.

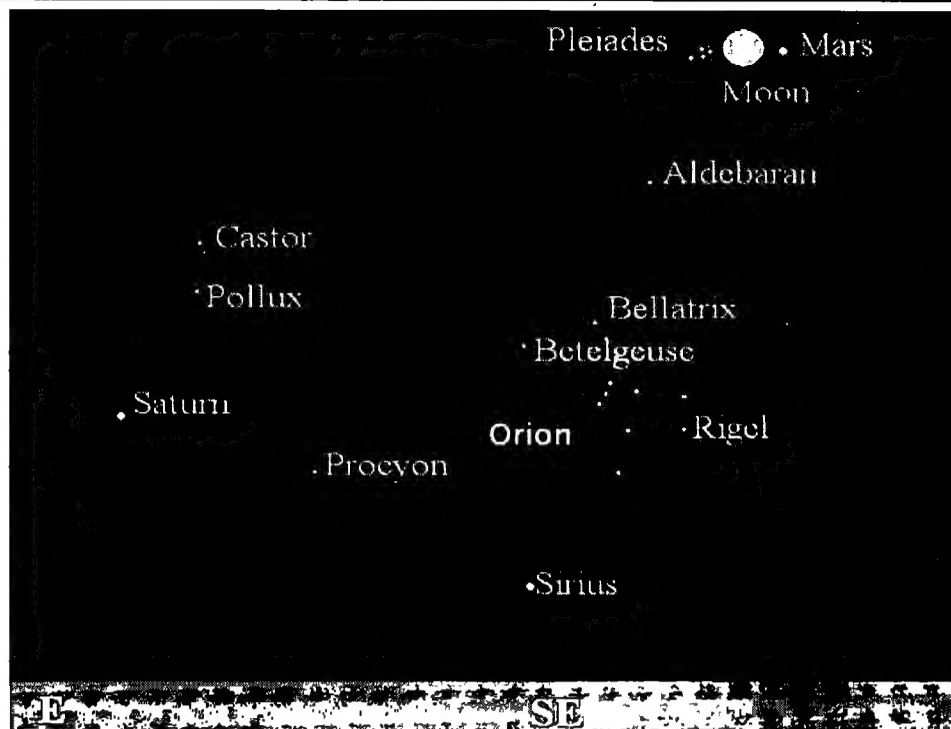
Bright Planets (Morning Sky)

Venus (magnitude -4.4 to -4.5): In Sagittarius. For northern hemisphere observers, Venus will reach its greatest brilliancy on Feb. 17. By month's end Venus will rise about 2.5 hours before the Sun, and will be visible very low in the east-southeast at the beginning of morning twilight.

For southern hemisphere observers, Venus will be visible over 20 degrees high in the east at the beginning of morning twilight by month's end.

Mars (magnitude 0.2 to 0.6): Moving from Aries to Taurus. For northern hemisphere observers, Mars will stand more than 60 degrees high in the southwest at the end of evening twilight, and will set near 1:30 AM in the west-northwest.

For less favored southern hemi-



Planetary Conjunction: Feb. 5 after sunset looking east-southeast.

sphere observers, Mars will stand about 30 degrees high in the northwest at the end of evening twilight, and will set near 11 PM in the west-northwest.

Jupiter (magnitude -2.0 to -2.1): In Libra. For northern hemisphere observers, Jupiter will rise in the east-southeast after midnight, and will stand about 30 degrees high at the beginning of morning twilight.

For southern hemisphere observers, Jupiter will rise near 10:30 PM in the east-southeast, and will stand about 70 degrees high in the northeast at the beginning of morning twilight.

Other Celestial Phenomena

Zodiacal Light: Zodiacal light will be visible in northern latitudes in the West after evening twilight, beginning Feb. 15 and lasting two weeks. The phenomenon is visible only from very dark locations.

Zodiacal light is the result of sunlight bouncing off dust grains in our solar system. These grains lie mostly in the plane of the solar system.

Look for a pyramid of light in the evening sky somewhat similar to the

light from a city or town just over the horizon.

Conjunctions and Occultations:

Feb. 5: Mars 2 degrees south of the Moon.

Feb. 11: Saturn 4 degrees south of the Moon.

Feb. 21: Antares 0.2 degrees north of the Moon.